

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE
Date: May 7, 2007

Contact: Sondra Artis
Phone: (919) 733-5612

GOV. EASLEY REAPPOINTS GRUBER TO UTILITIES COMMISSION

RALEIGH-Gov. Mike Easley announced today he has reappointed Robert Gruber of Raleigh to serve as executive director of the North Carolina Utilities Commission's Public Staff. Gruber has served in this position since July 1983.

The appointment is effective July 1, 2007, pending confirmation by the General Assembly. The six-term expires June 30, 2013.

The seven-member Utilities Commission sets rates to be charged by the state's public utilities. It also investigates consumer complaints regarding utility operations and services. The panel has jurisdiction over public electric, telephone, natural gas, water and sewer companies, and household goods carriers.

The North Carolina Utilities Commission Public Staff is a non-regulatory agency that represents customers in rate cases and other utility matters. The independent staff appears before the commission and the appellate courts as an advocate of the consuming public.

###